

Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee

Thursday, June 1, 2006

Chair Behrend called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Jim Behrend (Chair), Jim Jeskewitz, Tom Schellinger, Rodell Singert, Andy Kallin, and Rob Hutton. Hutton left the meeting at 3:20 p.m. and Kallin left at 3:25 p.m.

Absent: Sandy Wolff.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels, Senior Services Director Cathy Bellovary, Senior Services Analyst Barbara Woyak, Health & Human Services Director Peter Schuler, Health & Human Services Deputy Director Don Maurer, Children & Family Services Manager Jesus Mireles, and Adolescent & Family Services Manager Pat Voss. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of 5-11-06

MOTION: Kallin moved, second by Singert to approve the minutes of May 11th. Motion carried 6-0.

Read Correspondence

- Commendation of Waukesha County Veterans' Services Director John Margowski.
- Letter dated 5-17-06 to Gerald Huber, Wisconsin County Human Services Association President, from Helen Nelson, State Department of Health & Human Services Secretary, regarding the expansion of Family Care and other managed long term care programs.

Chair's Executive Committee Report of 5-15-06

Behrend said the Executive Committee, at their last meeting, spent a lot of time discussing ordinance 161-O-008 entitled "Amend Waukesha County Code of Ordinances to Establish Courthouse and Administration Center Facility Screening." Supervisor Herro objected to some appointments as he felt the same supervisors are being re-appointed to boards and commissions and other supervisors needed to become more involved.

Schedule Next Meeting Dates

June 15th.

Future Agenda Items

Singert requested statistics on how many illegal immigrants are receiving food stamps. Esler broadened the request to include all county human services utilized by illegal immigrants and Kallin suggested obtaining statistics on other federally funded services.

Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) Conference Report by Esler and Wolff

Esler gave a report on the recent WCHSA Conference held at the Concourse in Madison. Esler felt there was a lack of good information at this year's conference compared to past WCHSA conferences. Helene Nelson, State Department of Health & Human Services Secretary, addressed long term care changes on the state level. She said statewide, there are 11,500 people on long term care and developmental disabilities waiting lists. The Governor's objective is to

eliminate all waiting lists within the next 3-1/2 years. Basically, more people are on these waiting lists than are being served through these programs. The state has requested from counties, how much money they are spending on these programs currently. These numbers would be forever frozen as the county levy amount. State and federal funds will pay the remainder including future cost increases. By promoting healthier lifestyles and greater independence of those in these programs, they will reduce the number of clients and therefore, reduce / eliminate the waiting lists. Esler, after hearing from the counties who have been piloting this transition over the last 18 months, left the conference without answers as to how this is being done. Apparently, they are having good meetings but haven't figured out where they will go. Esler said he expects this issue will be a future agenda item for this committee; specifically, how we're tabulating our county cost per the state's request.

Esler said a keynote speaker was Don Percy, former UW Executive Director, who was very informative and made comparisons of private sector vs. public sector. This was followed by a roundtable discussion with legislative leaders / aides on the financial impact of the Taxpayer's Protection Act and how this would be done, state mandates, campaign finance reform, and prioritizing human services funding. Regarding the latter, the answer by the legislators and their aides was that we are all in this together and will work together to figure out a solution.

Governor Doyle discussed his largest priority, the children. He said his administration will not be allowed to point fingers at "big spending locals." They also heard from Helene Nelson and others about what the state is doing with juvenile and adult protective placement issues. They are still emphasizing the Children's First initiative of the governor. Wisconsin is one of four states that have a sexual offender registry list. Currently, there are 71,000 people on probation and parole in Wisconsin (not all of them are sexual offenders). Questions were brought up with State Health & Human Services staff and others as to how Family Care will be promoted in the future.

Esler said the audience heard a very interesting session from a motivational speaker entitled "Hope and Optimism." Basically, aptitude is about 20% of the formula for success while 80% is motivation and initiative. Copies of his PowerPoint presentation will be distributed to the committee.

Educational Overview of the Senior Services Department

Bellovary and Woyak discussed the department's 2005 year-end report as outlined. The total 2005 budget was \$3,495,196 and included \$1,441,358 in county tax levy.

The Information & Assistance Division, among other things, assesses needs and provides information about programs and services. The department received an average of 202.2 contacts (phone calls and e-mails) per day in 2005. The number of unduplicated registered clients with an active case encounter in 2005 was 3,581.

Caregiver Support Services provides information to caregivers about available services, provides individual counseling and caregiver training, provides respite care for caregivers, etc. Caregivers received a total of 675 hours of counseling in 2005. An estimated 1,188 caregivers used 2,901 library resources, and 121 caregivers received 184 hours of case management and assistance accessing services.

The Benefit Specialist Services Program assists older adults with problems concerning Social Security, Medicare, and other benefit programs. In 2005, 191 older adults received benefit specialist services, a decrease of 43 or 17.8% from 2004. In 2005, the benefit specialist presented 72 Medicare Part D information sessions to 2,714 individuals. Of the total clients served in 2005, 85.9% were non-low income.

The Community Services Unit assists older adults with daily living activities to complement the support from family, friends, and other caregivers. The services are intended to allow older adults to remain living safely in their own home and avoid or delay moving to nursing homes or other alternative care situations. These include homemaker services, personal care, chore and household and home repair services, respite care, etc. In 2005, 504 clients were served versus 494 in 2004, an increase of 2%.

Adult Day Center Services include supervision, personal care, medication reminders, exercise therapies, and peer socialization for older adults in a group setting. With 1,929 days of service, subsidized adult day services decreased in 2005 by 220 days of service, or 10.2% from 2,149 days in 2004. The number of recipients decreased by 17 or 34.7% from 2004.

Elder Abuse and Neglect Services is the lead agency in Waukesha County for implementation and operation of the Elder Abuse and Neglect Reporting System. The Department of Health & Human Services conducts the investigations and files reports with the Department of Senior Services. The total number of elder abuse and neglect cases in 2005 was 55, which is 9 or 19.6% more than reported in 2004. Of those 55 reports, 20 were substantiated. The total number of reported cases continues to be well below the state average.

Senior Dining includes both Senior Dining Centers and Home Delivered meals. The program provides low cost meals to older adults who may be frail, isolated, or homebound. Senior Dining Center meals were provided at 12 dining centers throughout the County. This program helps older adults remain healthy, active, and independent in their own homes and communities. In 2005, 61,545 senior dining meals were served compared to 67,205 served during 2004, a decrease of 8.4%. A total of 84,517 Home Delivered Meals were served compared to 92,880 in 2004, a decrease of 7.9%.

Specialized Transportation Services are for non/limited driving older adults 65 years of age and older and for individuals with disabilities who are under the age of 65 years. Users are required to complete an eligibility application and fare determination form. Services include Rideline, Menomonee Falls Senior Shuttle, the Sussex Senior Shuttle, Interfaith Caregiver Network, and the Shared-Fare Taxi programs. Rideline and Shared-Fare Taxi provided 95.2% of the specialized transportation services to Waukesha County residents in 2005. Also, 58.2% were elderly and ambulatory. The average net cost per one-way trip, considering all forms of specialized transportation, was \$9.75 in 2005 which is \$0.56 lower than in 2004. The total number of one-way trips decreased 6,412 or 8.4% from those provided in 2004.

Volunteer Services includes recruitment, training, placement, and retention of volunteers who are vital to the department. Bellovary stressed the importance of volunteers for all their programming. In 2005, 1,726 individual and group volunteers provided 36,193 hours of service to Waukesha County seniors. The hours served by the volunteers equate to a minimal dollar value of \$315,727. The number of volunteer hours decreased by 3,537 hours of 8.9% from 2004.

Accept the 2005 Annual Report of the Senior Services Department

MOTION: Kallin moved, second by Jeskewitz to accept the 2005 Annual Report of the Senior Services Department. Motion carried 6-0.

Educational Overview of the Child and Family Services Division of the Health & Human Services Department

Mireles distributed statistical information on the Child & Family Services Division. The division provides ongoing intervention to families with a child who has been or is at risk of being abused or neglected in order to promote child safety and keeping families together. The division provides services to children and families to prevent imminent placements, reunify families, or establish an alternate permanent plan. The division provides permanency planning for children placed in foster care, treatment foster care, group homes, and residential care. Staff also provides foster care recruitment, licensing and training. The division contracts with Lutheran Social Services to provide Birth To Three programming for children 0-3 years of age who have been diagnosed with a 25% developmental delay. Staff provides service coordination for children who have been diagnosed with Autism or a related disability under the Medicaid Waiver Program. This service is also contracted with Lutheran Social Services.

Hutton left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Kallin left the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Educational Overview of the Adolescent and Family Services Division of the Health & Human Services Department

Voss distributed statistical information on the Adolescent & Family Services Division whose mission is to: 1) promote protection and safety of the community from the delinquent acts of juveniles; 2) promote the protection and safety of children from the abusive and neglectful acts of adults and other children; 3) promote development of responsible and pro-social behaviors in children and their families; 4) promote development of skills and competencies toward self-sufficiency in children and their families; and 5) promote strengths of the family unit as the foundation of a strong community. The division receives cases from school referrals for truancy services, law enforcement referrals for runaways and of family violence, community referrals of child welfare concerns, parents requesting services for their families, and community professionals referring children for residential treatment. A decision to open a family case is based on level of need, exhaustion of private resources, a need for formal court involvement, and/or a high risk of out-of-home placement of children.

MOTION: Singert moved, second by Jeskewitz to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved on: _____

James Jeskewitz
Secretary